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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-13 OIC-04 AEC-11 ACDA-19 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-15 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 H-03

NSC-10 SS-15 RSR-01 (ADP) W
---------- 057307
R 251915Z JUL 73
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 945
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3167
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3525

EO. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: JULY 25 NAC DISCUSSION OF UK AND BENELUX PAPERS

REF: A) USNATO 3396; B) USNATO 3451
C). STATE 145663; D) USNATO 3497

SUMMARY: IN JULY 25 NAC MOST PERMREPS GREETED FAVORABLY
UK STEERING BRIEF AND BENELUX PROCEDURES PAPER AND
PRESSED FOR MORE DETAILED REVIEW IN SPC. US REP THAN
BLOCKED THAT MANEUVER. PAPERS WILL PROBABLY AGAIN BE ON
NAC AGENDA FOR AUGUST 1, WITH INTERIM SPC DISCUSSION ON JULY
31, ON UNDERSTANDING THAT DRAFTING OF POSSIBLE JOINT PAPER WILL
NOT BEGIN UNTIL FULL U.S. VIEWS ON SUBJECT MATTER HAVE BEEN
HEARD. END SUMMARY.

1. AS FORESEEN IN USNATO 3421 AND 3472, NAC AS SCHEDULED TOOK
UP BENELUX PAPER ON PROCEDURES FOR MBFR NEGOTIATIONS AND ALLIED
CONSULTATION (REF A) AND UK "STEERING BRIEF (REF B). SYG SUGGESTED
THAT PERMREPS GIVE ONLY GENERAL PRELIMINARY COMMENTS, AND RETURN
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TO PAPERS AT NEXT REGULAR MEETING (AUGUST 1). HE ASKED BELGIAN AND
UK PERMREPS FOR ANY INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

2. DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) FOUND UK AND BENELUX PAPERS COMPLEMENTARY,

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AND SUGGESTED THAT SENIOR POLADS GIVEN PROMPT ATTENTION TO ANY DISCREPANCIES WITH INTENT TO RESOLVING THEM. SPC CHAIRMAN KASTL SAID SPC CONSIDERATION MIGHT BE PREMATURE; NAC SHOULD FIRST GIVE MORE DIRECTION AS TO WHAT WAS TO BE DONE WITH THE TWO PAPERS. DE STAERCKE RESPONDED TO THIS THAT SPC OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE TO "MARRY" PAPERS--I.E., TO INCLUDE BENELUX POINTS IN UK STEERING BRIEF. PECK (UK) AGREED THAT SPC MIGHT BE ASKED TO BEGIN WORK ON A COMBINED PAPER.

3. MENZIES SAID THAT CANADIAN AUTHORITIES HAD SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT POINTS OF DETAIL IN BOTH PAPERS, BUT WOULD BE WILLING TO DEAL WITH THEM IN SPC.

4. MCAULIFFE (U.S.) GAVE FULL STATEMENT BASED ON REF C AND DRAWING ALSO ON REF D. HE SAID U.S. FOUND POSITIVE ELEMENTS IN BOTH PAPERS BUT ALSO CERTAIN PROBLEM AREAS, AND WOULD SOON HAVE ADDITIONAL IDEAS ON SAME MATTERS TO PUT FORTH. HE PROPOSED THAT UK AND BENELUX PAPERS REMAIN BEFORE NAC, BUT THAT NAC SHOULD GIVE ITS IMMEDIATE ATTENTION TO MORE PRESSING TASK OF DEVELOPING A SUBSTANTIVE PROGRAM FOR NEGOTIATIONS, AFTER WHICH QUESTIONS OF PROCEDURE WOULD MORE EASILY FALL INTO PLACE.

5. ERALP (TURKEY) FOUND BOTH PAPERS BEFORE NAC "EXCELLENT," BUT PROMISED PARTICULAR OBSERVATIONS ABOUT THEM WHICH TURKISH SPC REP COULD EXPLAIN. CATALANO (ITALY) GAVE PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTED COMMENTARY ON BENELUX PAPER TO EFFECT THAT DESCRIPTION OF NAC-AD HOC GROUP RELATIONSHIP WAS SATISFACTORY, THAT THERE SHOULD BE ONLY ONE CHAIRMAN OF AD HOC GROUP, AND THAT WORKING GOURPS IN NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE OPEN-ENDED. HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS ON UK STEERING BRIEF, BUT CONCURRED IN NEED FOR SPC EXAMINATION OF BOTH PAPERS.

6. NEW DANISH PERMREP SVART ALSO FOUND PAPERS PRAISEWORTHY, BUT THOUGHT THEY SHOULD BE THOROUGHLY CONSIDERED NOT ONLY IN NAC BUT IN AD HOC GROUP, WHICH ACCORDING TO HIS UNDERSTANDING WAS EXPECTED TO MEET IN BRUSSELS IN SEPTEMBER, BEFORE ANY FINAL AGREEMENTS WERE REACHED.
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7. ON BASIS OF VIEWS HE HAD HEARD, SYG PROPOSED THAT SPC TAKE UP THE TWO PAPERS, BUT REPORT THEM BACK TO NAC FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION BY PERMREPS. MCAULIFFE SAID U.S. COULD NOT AGREE TO THIS PROCEDURE; AS HE HAD STATED PREVIOUSLY, QUESTIONS OF PROCEDURE SHOULD FOLLOW QUESTIONS OF SUBSTANCE, AND BOTH SHOULD BE KEPT FOR TIME BEING BEFORE NAC.

8. DE STAERCKE PROTESTED THAT THIS WOULD LEAD TO A WASTE OF TIME, AND SPC SHOULD AT A MINIMUM BE USED FOR ALLIES WHO WERE READY TO AIR VIEWS ON SUBJECTS DEALT WITH BY BENELUX AND UK. SYG CONCLUDED THAT SPC SHOULD NOT YET MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO DRAFT JOINT PAPER ON BASIS OF UK AND BENELUX CONTRIBUTIONS, BUT THAT ALLIES WHO WISHED TO MAKE ANY MORE DETAILED COMMENTS ON THE PAPERS MIGHT DO SO IN

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SPC.
MCAULIFFE

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